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THE NEW MUTANTS
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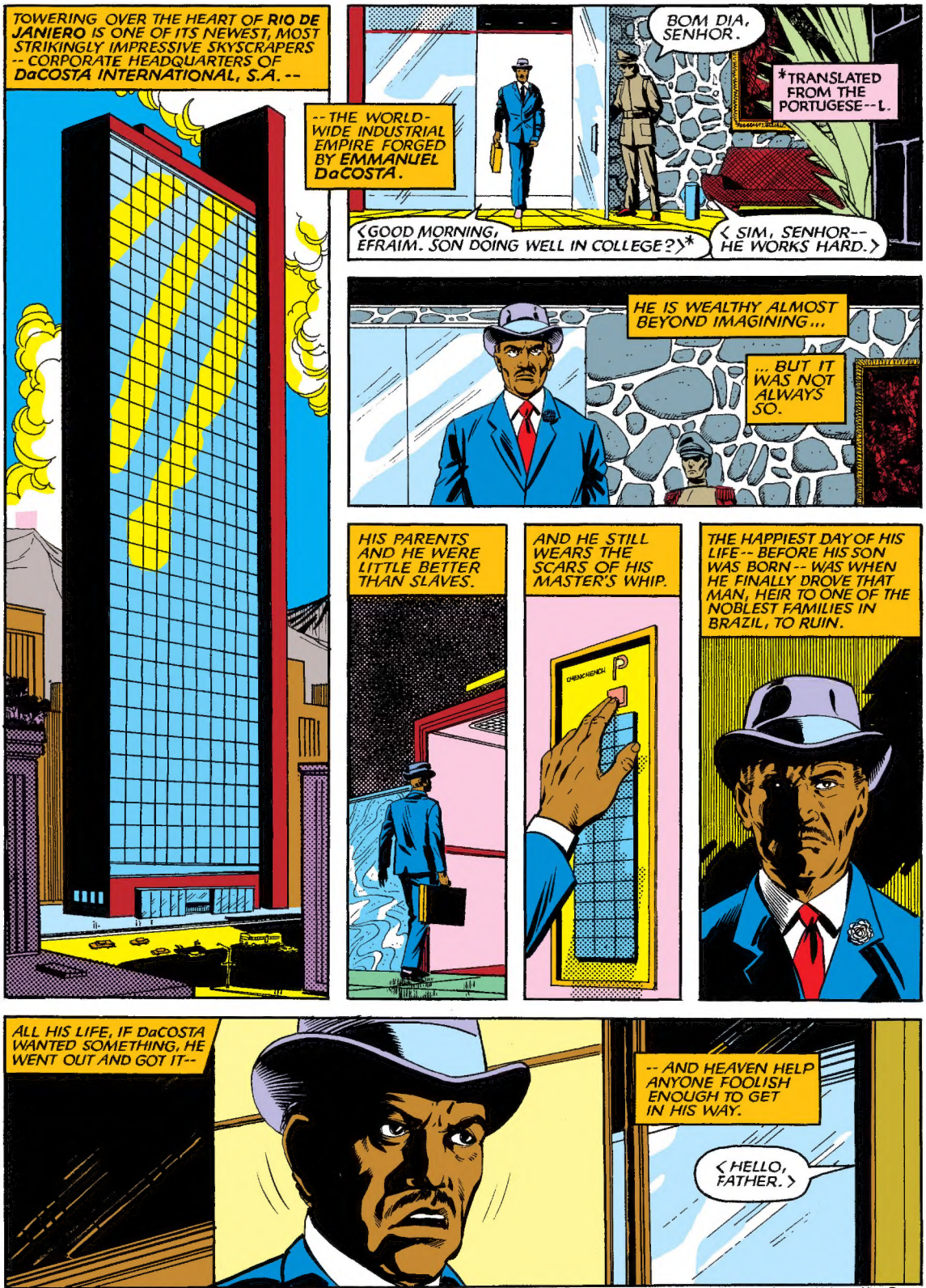

THE NEW MUTANTS ™ **Vol. 1, No. 12, February, 1984.** Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published monthly. Copyright © 1983 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 60¢ per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate $7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THE NEW MUTANTS (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second-class postage rates is pending at New York, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices.

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New Mutants STARS

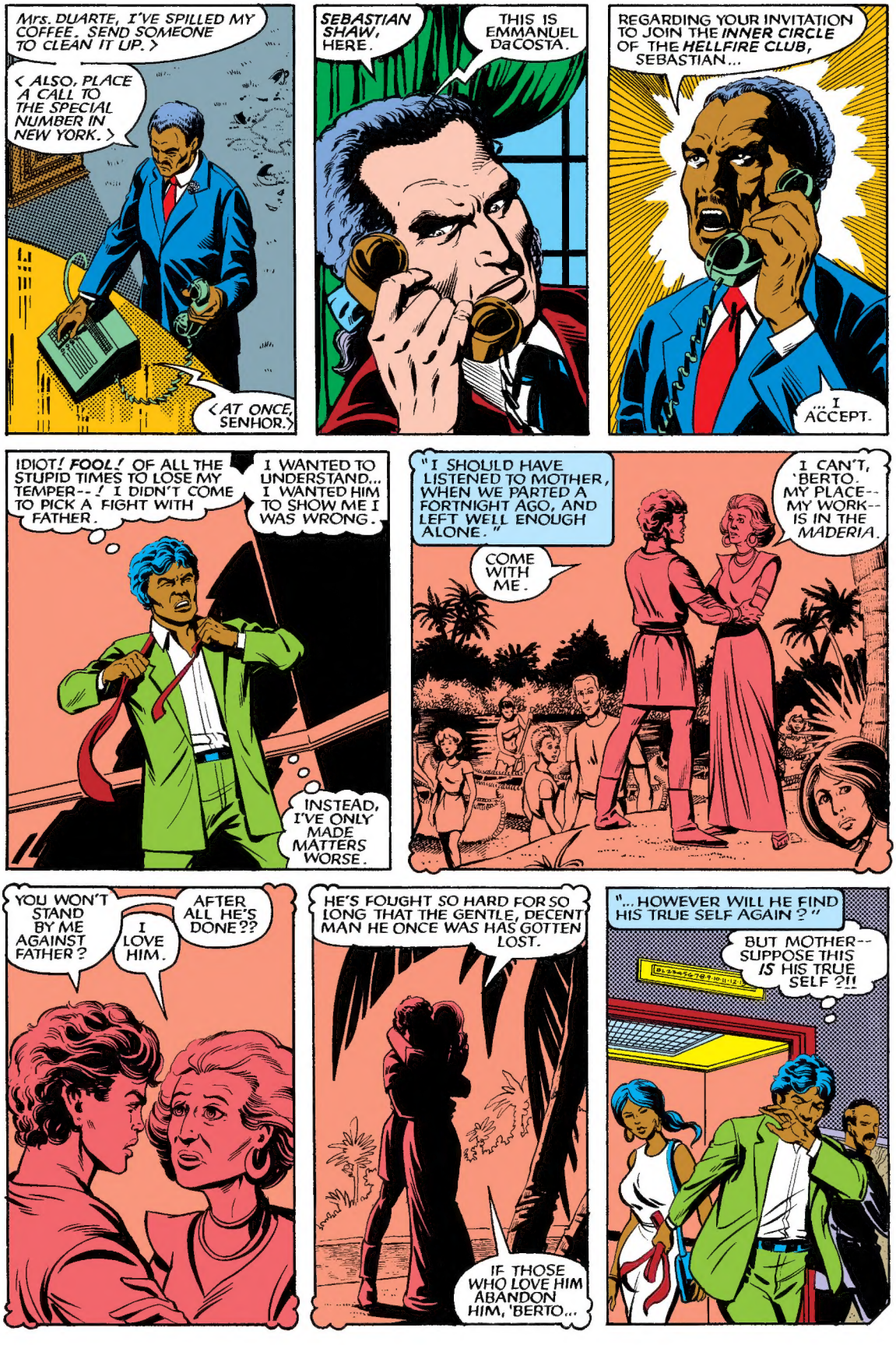
CREATED BY CHRIS CLAREMONT AND BOB McLEOD

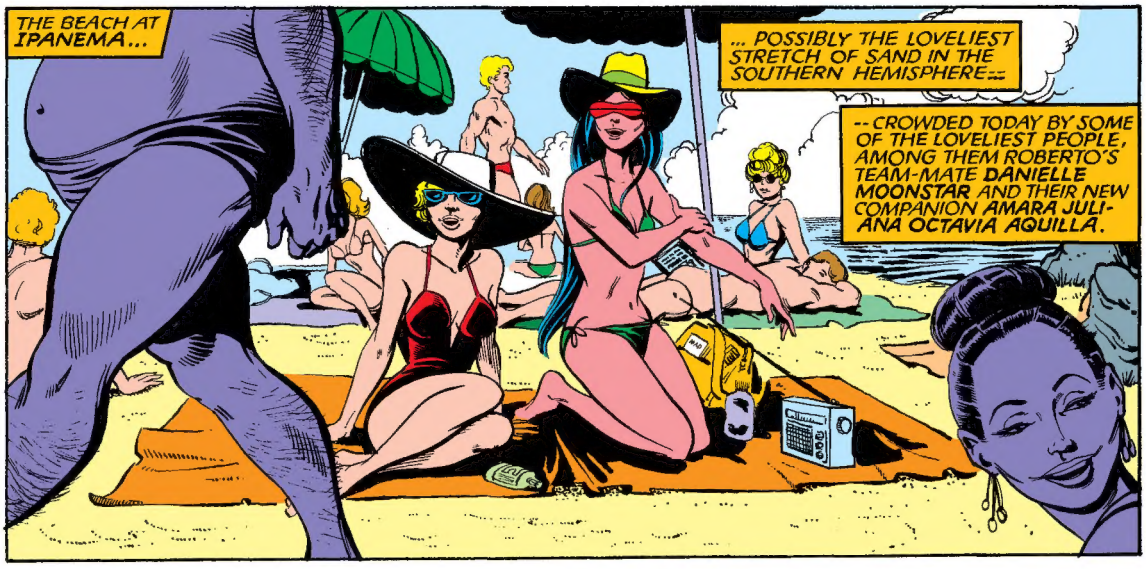
SUNSTROKE

〈 YOU'RE SITTING IN MY CHAIR, ROBERTO. 〉
〈 I REMEMBER YOU PERCHING ME ON YOUR KNEE, UP ON CORCOVADO-- BENEATH THE CHRIST STATUE-- AND WAVING YOUR HAND ACROSS THE CITY... 〉
〈...TELLING ME HOW, ONE DAY, ALL WE BEHELD WOULD BE MINE. 〉
〈 I BELIEVED YOU, EVEN THOUGH YOU LAUGHED, LIKE IT WAS NO MORE THAN A JOKE-- AND I THOUGH IT WAS WONDERFUL... 〉
〈...THAT MY FATHER COULD START WITH NOTHING AND RISE SO FAR, ACHIEVE SO MUCH. 〉
〈 EVERYTHING I DID WAS TO MAKE YOU PROUD OF ME, TO MAKE ME WORTHY OF YOUR LEGACY. 〉
〈 NOW I FIND I NO LONGER CARE. 〉
〈 WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO OFFER, I DO NOT WANT. 〉
〈 YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN POOR, 'BERTO, NOR KNOWN HUNGER-- YOU'VE NEVER HAD TO WORK LIKE A DOG, JUST TO STAY ALIVE. 〉
〈 THINK, MY SON, BEFORE YOU CAST YOURSELF INTO THE ABYSS. 〉
〈 YOU HAVE MUCH TO LOSE. 〉
〈 NOWHERE NEAR AS MUCH AS I ALREADY HAVE. 〉
〈 AND I DON'T CONSIDER THAT I'M LEAPING OFF THE EDGE AS MUCH AS BEING PUSHED-- 〉
〈-- BY YOU! 〉

〈 TO GAIN THE RICHES OF THE FABLED MADERIA--THE LOST LAND OF THE ANDES--YOU TRIED TO HAVE ME AND MOTHER KILLED! 〉
〈 NO, THAT WAS NEVER MY INTENT.
〈 THINGS GOT OUT OF HAND, IS THAT IT? YOUR MAN, CASTRO, SIMPLY EXCEEDED HIS AUTHORITY? 〉
〈 WHY, FATHER--WHAT WAS IT FOR?! WEALTH, POWER--DON'T WE HAVE SUFFICIENT ALREADY?!! 〉
〈 MY REASONS ARE MY OWN. 〉
〈 AND I DESIRE TO KNOW THEM! 〉
〈 SUPPOSE CASTRO HAD SUCCEEDED, WOULD YOU HAVE BEEN SORRY--WOULD YOU HAVE EVEN CARED?! 〉
〈 DO NOT TAKE THAT TONE WITH ME, BOY. 〉
〈 I AM YOUR FATHER! 〉
〈 WHO LOVES ME? AND MOTHER TOO, NO DOUBT. 〉
〈 I LOOK FOR THE MAN I REMEMBER. I WANT--I NEED--TO FIND HIM, ONLY HE'S GONE. 〉
〈 A STRANGER STANDS IN HIS PLACE. 〉
〈 YOU PRESUME TO JUDGE ME--HOW DARE YOU!?! JUST WHO IN HADES DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!? 〉
〈 DO NOT RAISE YOUR HAND TO ME, SIR. 〉
〈 BLESSED MADONNA! 〉
〈 I AM NO LONGER A CHILD, TO BE SPANKED. IN THIS GUISE, I AM SUNSPOT--A MUTANT--POSSESSING THE POWER TO LEVEL THIS BUILDING, IF I WISHED. TO SOME, THAT MAKES ME A MONSTER. 〉
〈 BUT LOOKING AT YOU, I WONDER WHICH OF US MORE FULLY DESERVES THAT NAME. 〉

< FORGET THE MADERÍA. FIND SOME OTHER LAND TO EXPLOIT. IF YOU MAKE A MOVE INTO THAT HIDDEN VALLEY, I'LL KNOW. >
< AND I AND MY FELLOW NEW MUTANTS WILL DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER... >
<...TO STOP YOU. >
< FAREWELL. >
< ROBERTO-- LEAVE ME AND IT WILL BE AS IF YOU NEVER EXISTED. >
< I WILL HAVE NO SON! >
< THEN, SIR, I AM NOW HALF AN ORPHAN. >
< 'BERTO! >


Mrs. DUARTE, I'VE SPILLED MY COFFEE. SEND SOMEONE TO CLEAN IT UP.>
<ALSO, PLACE A CALL TO THE SPECIAL NUMBER IN NEW YORK.>
<AT ONCE, SENHOR.>
SEBASTIAN SHAW, HERE.
THIS IS EMMANUEL DaCOSTA.
REGARDING YOUR INVITATION TO JOIN THE INNER CIRCLE OF THE HELLFIRE CLUB, SEBASTIAN...
...I ACCEPT.
IDIOT! FOOL! OF ALL THE STUPID TIMES TO LOSE MY TEMPER--! I DIDN'T COME TO PICK A FIGHT WITH FATHER.
I WANTED TO UNDERSTAND... I WANTED HIM TO SHOW ME I WAS WRONG.
INSTEAD, I'VE ONLY MADE MATTERS WORSE.
"I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO MOTHER, WHEN WE PARTED A FORTNIGHT AGO, AND LEFT WELL ENOUGH ALONE."
COME WITH ME.
I CAN'T, 'BERTO. MY PLACE--MY WORK--IS IN THE MADERIA.
YOU WON'T STAND BY ME AGAINST FATHER?
I LOVE HIM.
AFTER ALL HE'S DONE??
HE'S FOUGHT SO HARD FOR SO LONG THAT THE GENTLE, DECENT MAN HE ONCE WAS HAS GOTTEN LOST.
IF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM ABANDON HIM, 'BERTO...
"...HOWEVER WILL HE FIND HIS TRUE SELF AGAIN?"
BUT MOTHER--SUPPOSE THIS IS HIS TRUE SELF?!!

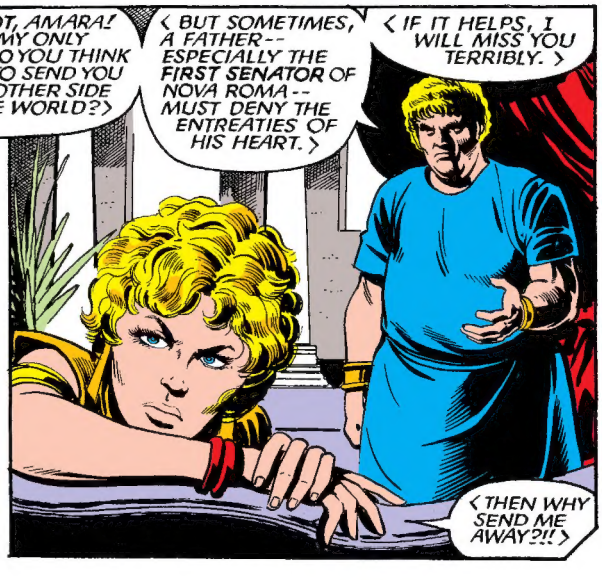

THE BEACH AT IPANEMA...
... POSSIBLY THE LOVELIEST STRETCH OF SAND IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE--
-- CROWDED TODAY BY SOME OF THE LOVELIEST PEOPLE, AMONG THEM ROBERTO'S TEAM-MATE DANIELLE MOONSTAR AND THEIR NEW COMPANION AMARA JULIANA OCTAVIA AQUILLA.

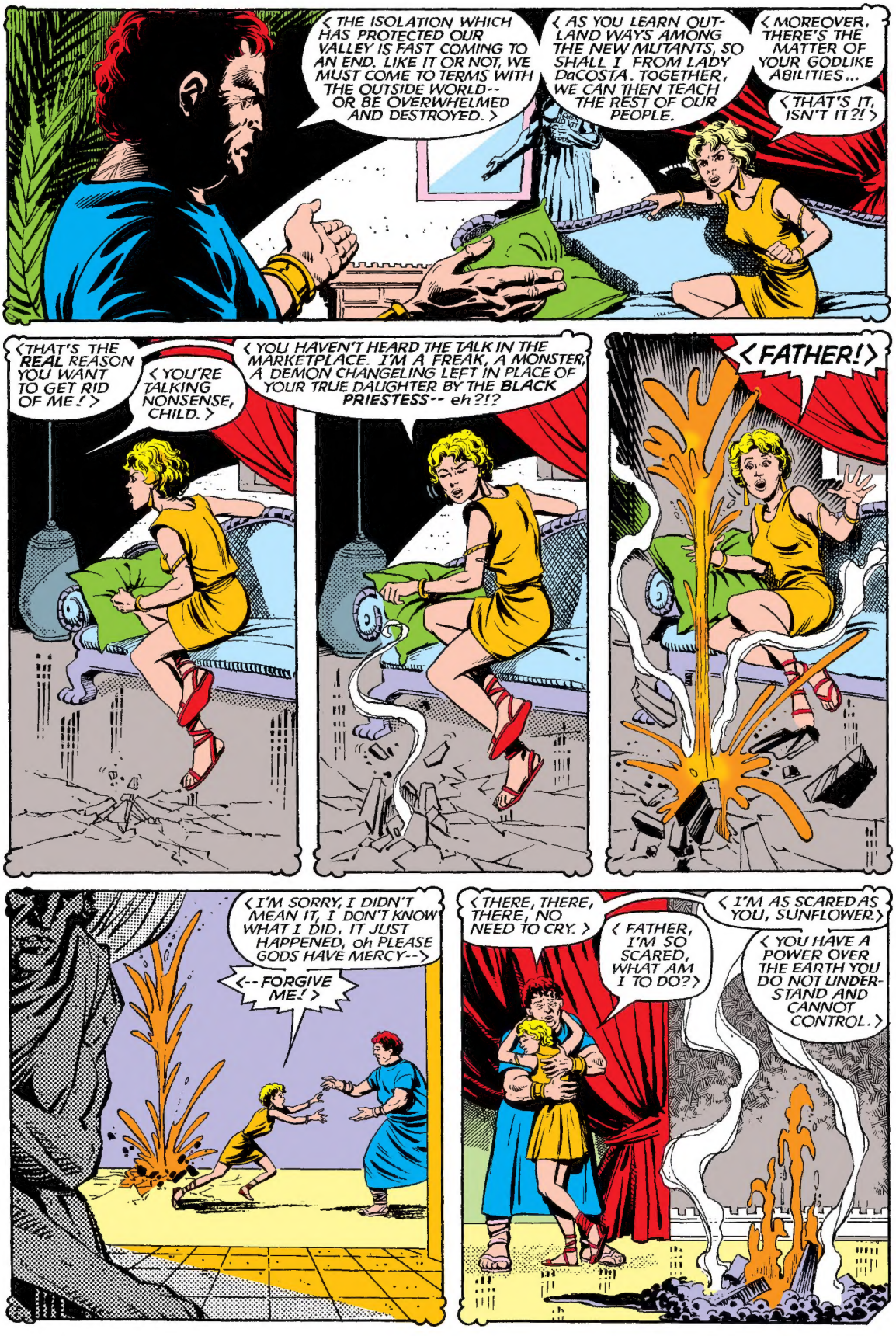
THIS COSTUME IS INCREDIBLE, DANI. IT FEELS SLIPPERY, LIKE A SNAKE, AND FITS AS SNUGLY AS A SECOND SKIN!
IT'S VERY DARING.

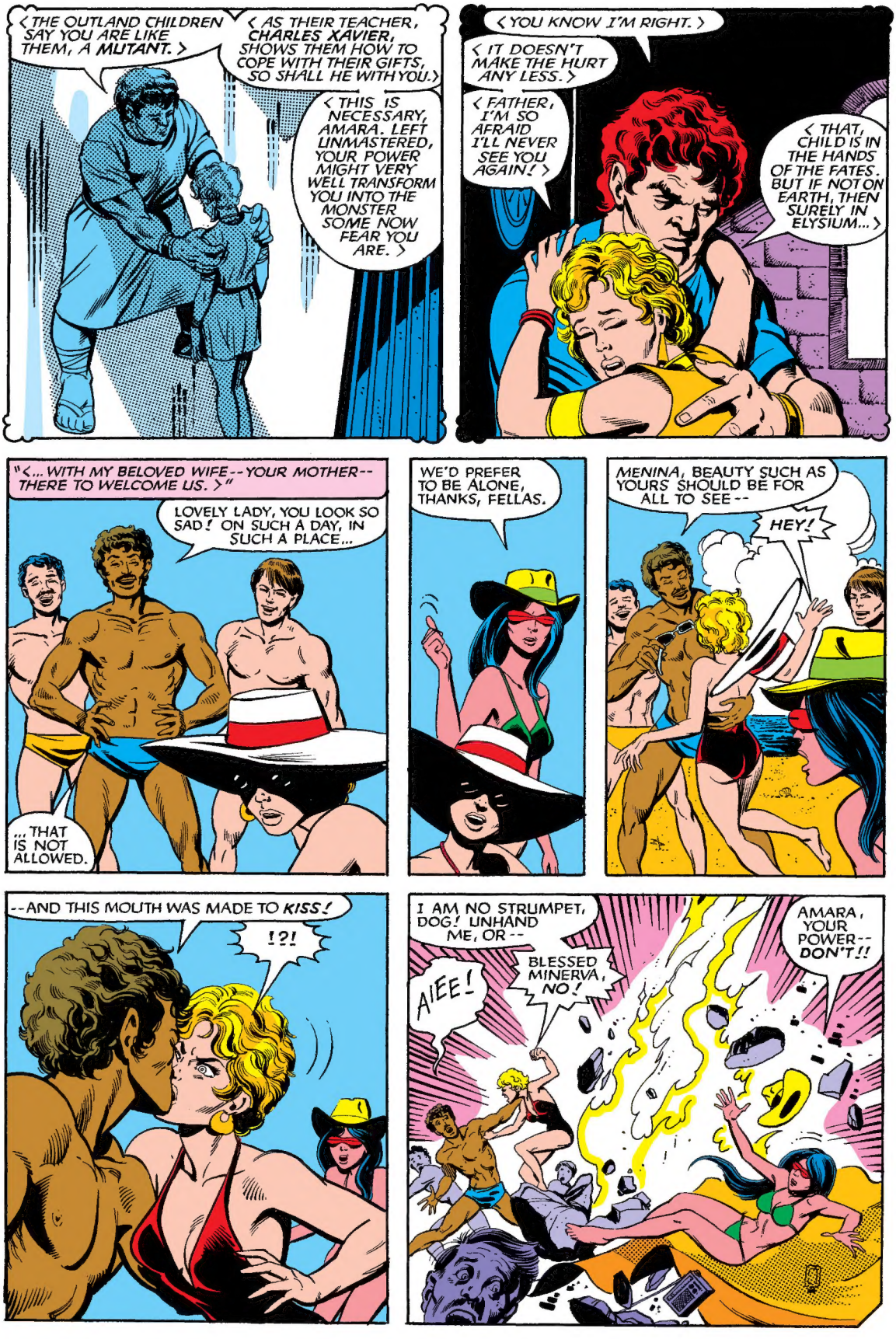
AND ALL THESE PEOPLE, THE BUILDINGS-- COMPARED TO THIS, NOVA ROMA IS LITTLE MORE THAN A VILLAGE!
AS FOR THE OCEAN-- I NEVER DREAMED SO MUCH WATER EXISTED IN THE ENTIRE WORLD!
BUT THE SUN...

THE JUNGLE OUTSIDE OUR VALLEY WAS HOT, BUT NOT LIKE THIS. EVEN WITH THESE GLASSES, THE SKY IS SO BRIGHT IT HURTS MY EYES.
I DO NOT BELONG HERE.

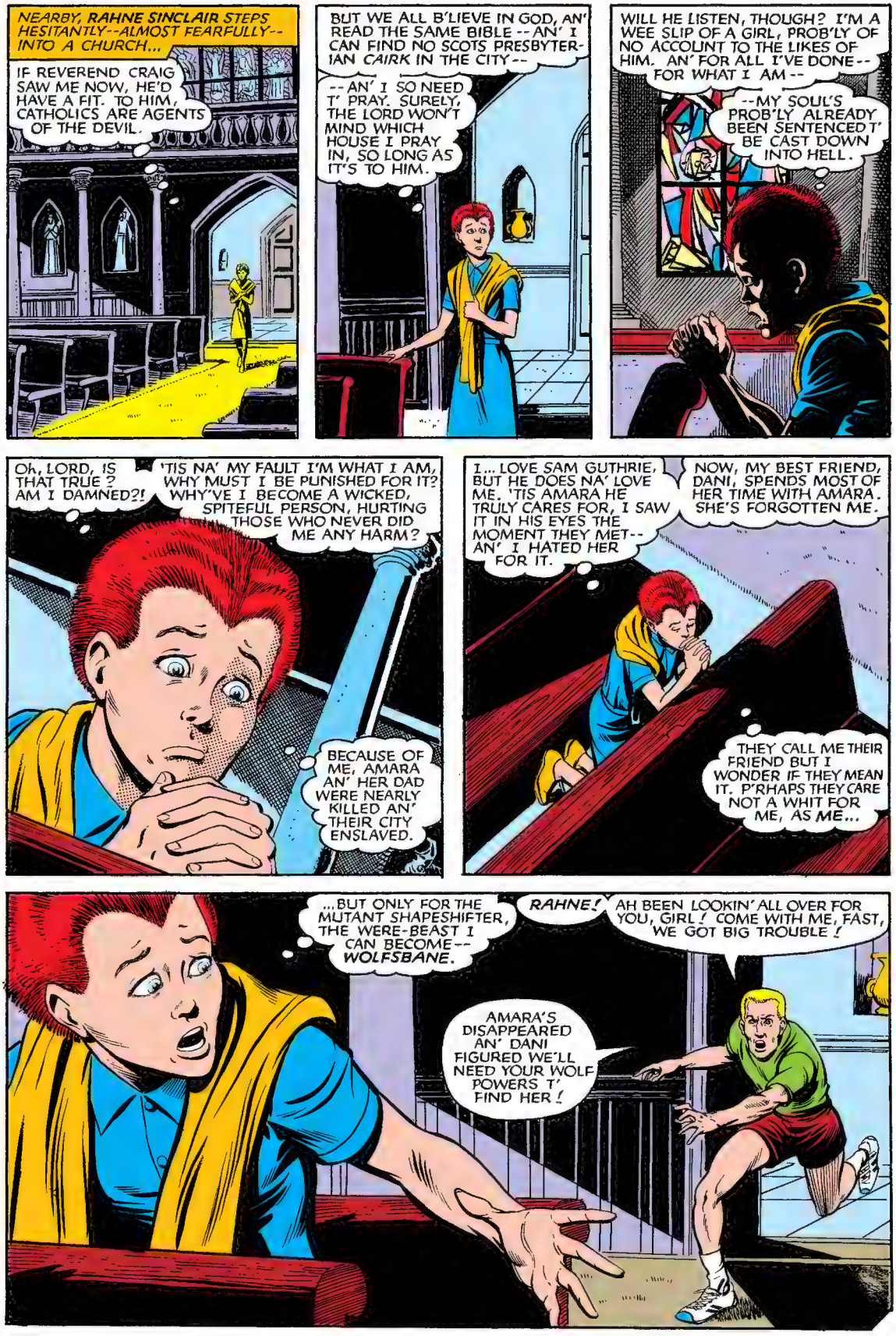
"I WISH I WAS HOME."
〈 WHY DO I HAVE TO LEAVE?!* 〉
〈 BECAUSE IT'S FOR THE BEST. 〉
〈 EASY FOR YOU TO SAY. 〉
*TRANSLATED FROM THE LATIN.

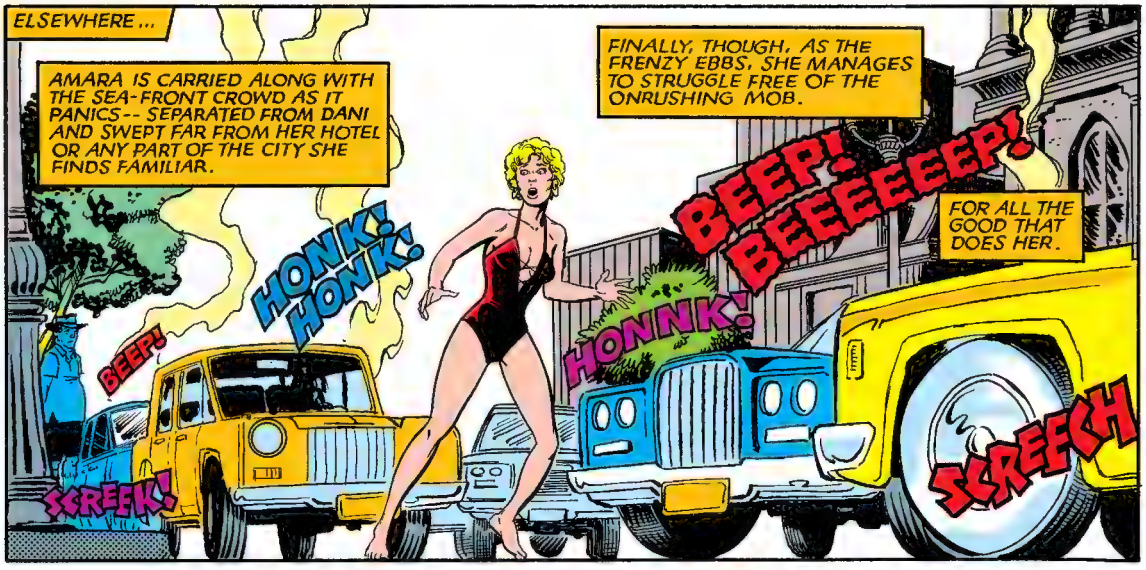

〈 IT IS NOT, AMARA! YOU ARE MY ONLY CHILD-- DO YOU THINK I WANT TO SEND YOU TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD? 〉
〈 BUT SOMETIMES, A FATHER-- ESPECIALLY THE FIRST SENATOR OF NOVA ROMA -- MUST DENY THE ENTREATIES OF HIS HEART. 〉
〈 IF IT HELPS, I WILL MISS YOU TERRIBLY. 〉
〈 THEN WHY SEND ME AWAY?!! 〉

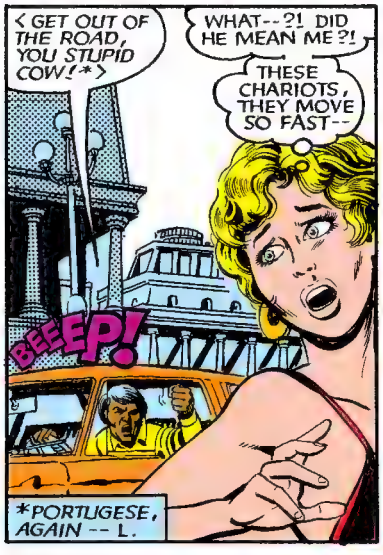

〈THE ISOLATION WHICH HAS PROTECTED OUR VALLEY IS FAST COMING TO AN END. LIKE IT OR NOT, WE MUST COME TO TERMS WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD-- OR BE OVERWHELMED AND DESTROYED.〉
〈AS YOU LEARN OUT-LAND WAYS AMONG THE NEW MUTANTS, SO SHALL I FROM LADY DaCOSTA. TOGETHER, WE CAN THEN TEACH THE REST OF OUR PEOPLE.
〈MOREOVER, THERE'S THE MATTER OF YOUR GODLIKE ABILITIES...
〈THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT?!〉
〈THAT'S THE REAL REASON YOU WANT TO GET RID OF ME!〉
〈YOU'RE TALKING NONSENSE, CHILD.〉
〈YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE TALK IN THE MARKETPLACE. I'M A FREAK, A MONSTER, A DEMON CHANGELING LEFT IN PLACE OF YOUR TRUE DAUGHTER BY THE BLACK PRIESTESS-- eh?!?
〈FATHER!〉
〈I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN IT, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DID, IT JUST HAPPENED, oh PLEASE GODS HAVE MERCY--〉
〈-- FORGIVE ME!〉
〈THERE, THERE, THERE, NO NEED TO CRY.〉
〈FATHER, I'M SO SCARED, WHAT AM I TO DO?〉
〈I'M AS SCARED AS YOU, SUNFLOWER.〉
〈YOU HAVE A POWER OVER THE EARTH YOU DO NOT UNDER-STAND AND CANNOT CONTROL.〉

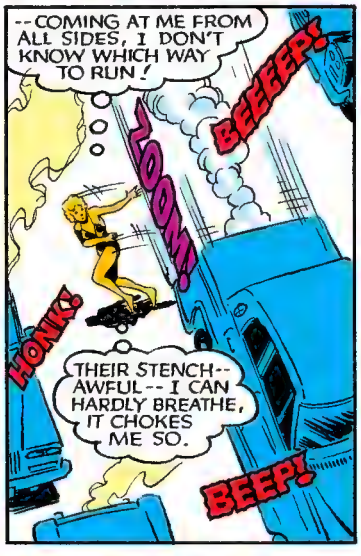

< THE OUTLAND CHILDREN SAY YOU ARE LIKE THEM, A MUTANT. >
< AS THEIR TEACHER, CHARLES XAVIER, SHOWS THEM HOW TO COPE WITH THEIR GIFTS, SO SHALL HE WITH YOU. >
< THIS IS NECESSARY, AMARA. LEFT UNMASTERED, YOUR POWER MIGHT VERY WELL TRANSFORM YOU INTO THE MONSTER SOME NOW FEAR YOU ARE. >
< YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT. >
< IT DOESN'T MAKE THE HURT ANY LESS. >
< FATHER, I'M SO AFRAID I'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN! >
< THAT, CHILD IS IN THE HANDS OF THE FATES. BUT IF NOT ON EARTH, THEN SURELY IN ELYSIUM... >
"< ... WITH MY BELOVED WIFE -- YOUR MOTHER -- THERE TO WELCOME US. >"
LOVELY LADY, YOU LOOK SO SAD! ON SUCH A DAY, IN SUCH A PLACE...
... THAT IS NOT ALLOWED.
WE'D PREFER TO BE ALONE, THANKS, FELLAS.
MENINA, BEAUTY SUCH AS YOURS SHOULD BE FOR ALL TO SEE --
HEY!
--AND THIS MOUTH WAS MADE TO KISS!
!?!
I AM NO STRUMPET, DOG! UNHAND ME, OR --
AIEE!
BLESSED MINERVA, NO!
AMARA, YOUR POWER -- DON'T!!

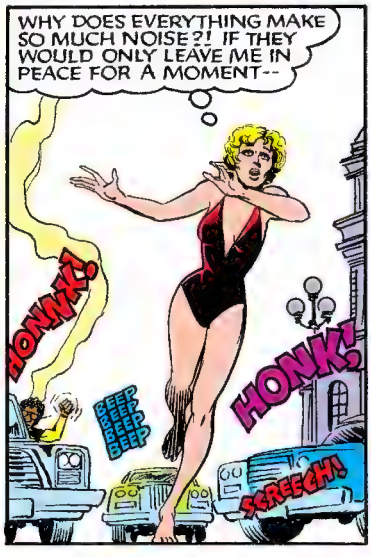
DANI'S WARNING -- AND AMARA'S OWN REALIZATION -- COME TOO LATE...
... AS THE YOUNG ROMAN, HER POWER TRIGGERED AND FUELED BY HER RAGE AT THE BOY'S ADVANCES AND FEAR OF WHAT MIGHT RESULT FROM THEM, PULLS A LAVA FLOW FROM DEEP WITHIN THE EARTH...
... AND UNLEASHES IT SKYWARD!

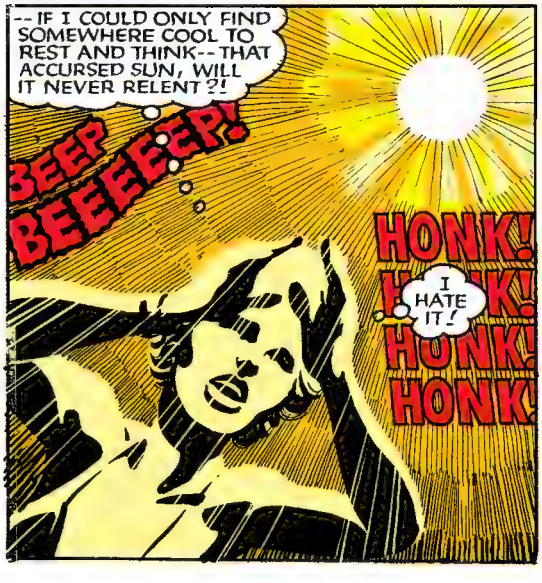

NEARBY, RAHNE SINCLAIR STEPS HESITANTLY--ALMOST FEARFULLY--INTO A CHURCH...
IF REVEREND CRAIG SAW ME NOW, HE'D HAVE A FIT. TO HIM, CATHOLICS ARE AGENTS OF THE DEVIL.
BUT WE ALL B'LIEVE IN GOD, AN' READ THE SAME BIBLE -- AN' I CAN FIND NO SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CAIRK IN THE CITY--
-- AN' I SO NEED T' PRAY. SURELY, THE LORD WON'T MIND WHICH HOUSE I PRAY IN, SO LONG AS IT'S TO HIM.
WILL HE LISTEN, THOUGH? I'M A WEE SLIP OF A GIRL, PROB'LY OF NO ACCOUNT TO THE LIKES OF HIM. AN' FOR ALL I'VE DONE -- FOR WHAT I AM --
--MY SOUL'S PROB'LY ALREADY BEEN SENTENCED T' BE CAST DOWN INTO HELL.
Oh, LORD, IS THAT TRUE? AM I DAMNED?!
'TIS NA' MY FAULT I'M WHAT I AM, WHY MUST I BE PUNISHED FOR IT? WHY'VE I BECOME A WICKED, SPITEFUL PERSON, HURTING THOSE WHO NEVER DID ME ANY HARM?
BECAUSE OF ME, AMARA AN' HER DAD WERE NEARLY KILLED AN' THEIR CITY ENSLAVED.
I... LOVE SAM GUTHRIE, BUT HE DOES NA' LOVE ME. 'TIS AMARA HE TRULY CARES FOR, I SAW IT IN HIS EYES THE MOMENT THEY MET -- AN' I HATED HER FOR IT.
NOW, MY BEST FRIEND, DANI, SPENDS MOST OF HER TIME WITH AMARA. SHE'S FORGOTTEN ME.
THEY CALL ME THEIR FRIEND BUT I WONDER IF THEY MEAN IT. P'RHAPS THEY CARE NOT A WHIT FOR ME, AS ME...
...BUT ONLY FOR THE MUTANT SHAPESHIFTER, THE WERE-BEAST I CAN BECOME -- WOLFSBANE.
RAHNE!
AH BEEN LOOKIN' ALL OVER FOR YOU, GIRL! COME WITH ME, FAST, WE GOT BIG TROUBLE!
AMARA'S DISAPPEARED AN' DANI FIGURED WE'LL NEED YOUR WOLF POWERS T' FIND HER!

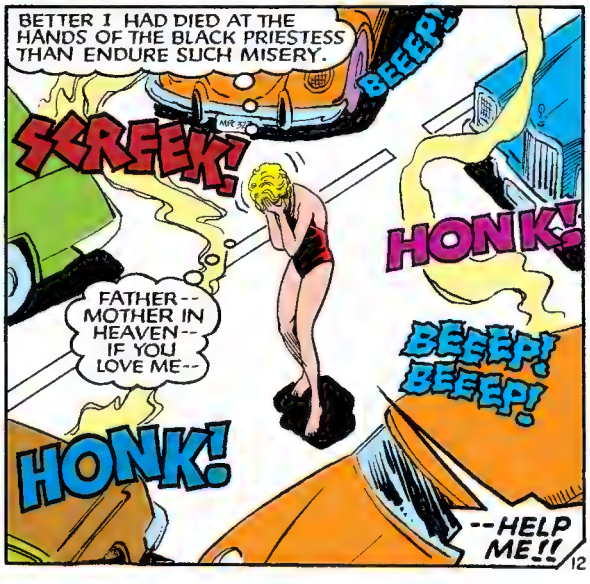

ELSEWHERE...
AMARA IS CARRIED ALONG WITH THE SEA-FRONT CROWD AS IT PANICS-- SEPARATED FROM DANI AND SWEPT FAR FROM HER HOTEL OR ANY PART OF THE CITY SHE FINDS FAMILIAR.
FINALLY, THOUGH, AS THE FRENZY EBBS, SHE MANAGES TO STRUGGLE FREE OF THE ONRUSHING MOB.
FOR ALL THE GOOD THAT DOES HER.
HONK! HONK!
BEEP!
SCREEK!
HONNK!
BEEP! BEEEEEEP!
SCREECH

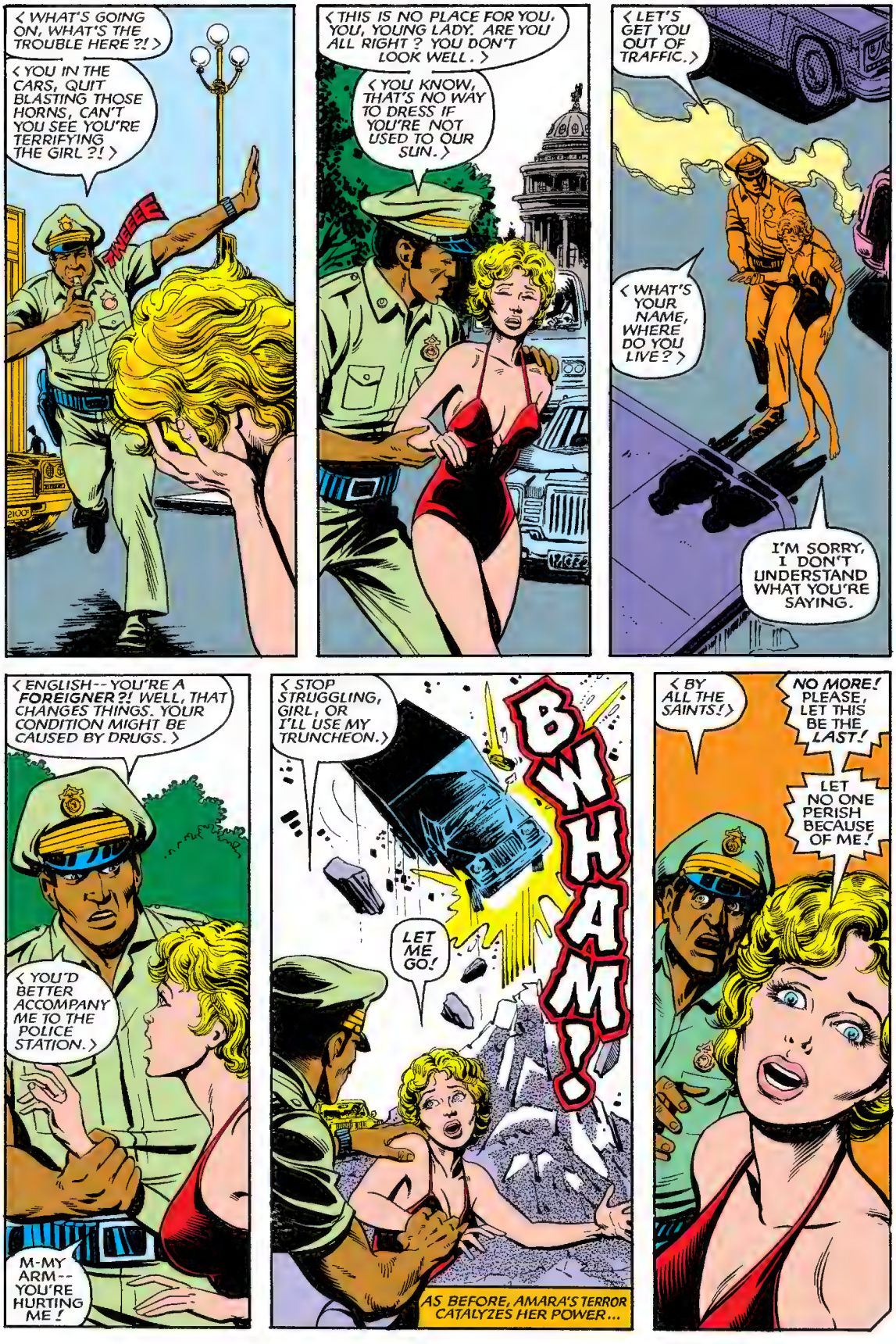

< GET OUT OF THE ROAD, YOU STUPID COW!*>
WHAT--?! DID HE MEAN ME?!
THESE CHARIOTS, THEY MOVE SO FAST--
BEEEP!
*PORTUGESE, AGAIN -- L.


--COMING AT ME FROM ALL SIDES, I DON'T KNOW WHICH WAY TO RUN!
BEEEEP!
ZOOM!
HONK!
THEIR STENCH-- AWFUL-- I CAN HARDLY BREATHE, IT CHOKES ME SO.
BEEP!

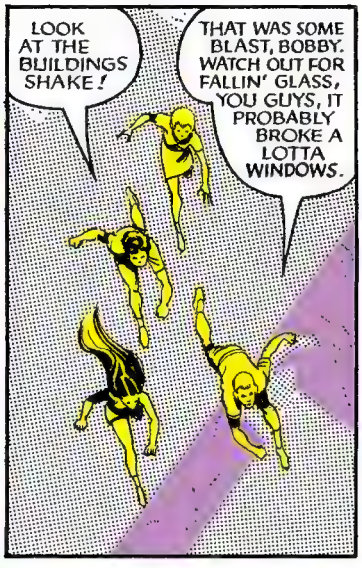

WHY DOES EVERYTHING MAKE SO MUCH NOISE?! IF THEY WOULD ONLY LEAVE ME IN PEACE FOR A MOMENT--
HONNK!
BEEP BEEP BEEEEP BEEP
HONK!
SCREECH!


-- IF I COULD ONLY FIND SOMEWHERE COOL TO REST AND THINK-- THAT ACCURSED SUN, WILL IT NEVER RELENT?!
BEEP BEEEEEP!
HONK!
I HATE IT!
HONK!
HONK!

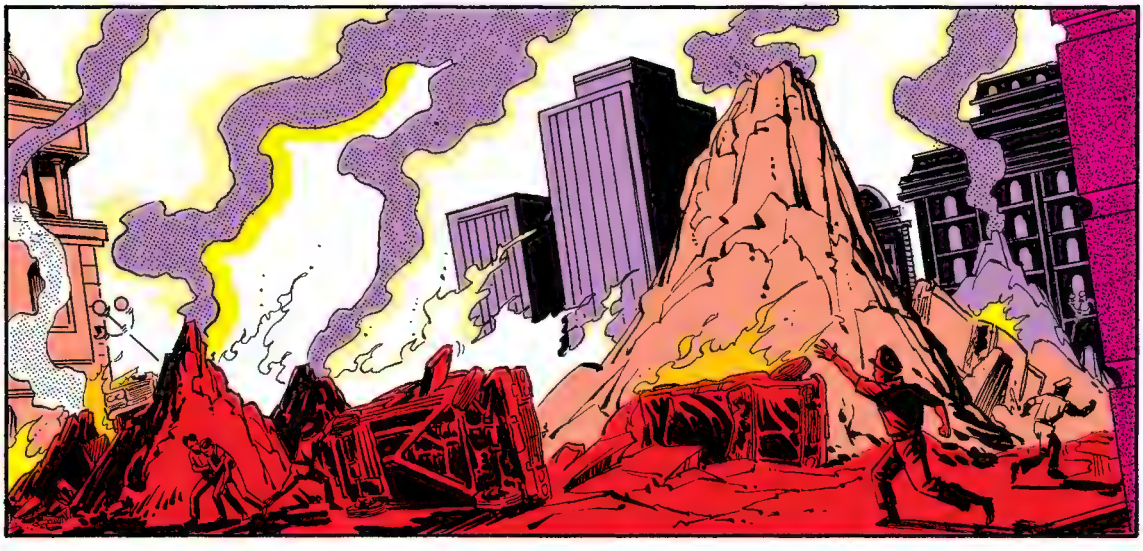

BETTER I HAD DIED AT THE HANDS OF THE BLACK PRIESTESS THAN ENDURE SUCH MISERY.
BEEEP!
SCREEK!
HONK!
FATHER-- MOTHER IN HEAVEN-- IF YOU LOVE ME--
BEEEP! BEEEP!
HONK!
--HELP ME!!


< WHAT'S GOING ON, WHAT'S THE TROUBLE HERE ?! >
< YOU IN THE CARS, QUIT BLASTING THOSE HORNS, CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'RE TERRIFYING THE GIRL ?! >
TWEEEE
< THIS IS NO PLACE FOR YOU, YOU, YOUNG LADY. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ? YOU DON'T LOOK WELL . >
< YOU KNOW, THAT'S NO WAY TO DRESS IF YOU'RE NOT USED TO OUR SUN. >
< LET'S GET YOU OUT OF TRAFFIC. >
< WHAT'S YOUR NAME, WHERE DO YOU LIVE ? >
I'M SORRY, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.
< ENGLISH--YOU'RE A FOREIGNER ?! WELL, THAT CHANGES THINGS. YOUR CONDITION MIGHT BE CAUSED BY DRUGS. >
< YOU'D BETTER ACCOMPANY ME TO THE POLICE STATION. >
M-MY ARM-- YOU'RE HURTING ME !
< STOP STRUGGLING, GIRL, OR I'LL USE MY TRUNCHEON. >
LET ME GO!
BWHAM!
AS BEFORE, AMARA'S TERROR CATALYZES HER POWER...
< BY ALL THE SAINTS! >
NO MORE! PLEASE, LET THIS BE THE LAST!
LET NO ONE PERISH BECAUSE OF ME!

BWHAM!
HEAR THAT?!
AMARA, IT'S GOTTA BE! C'MON!

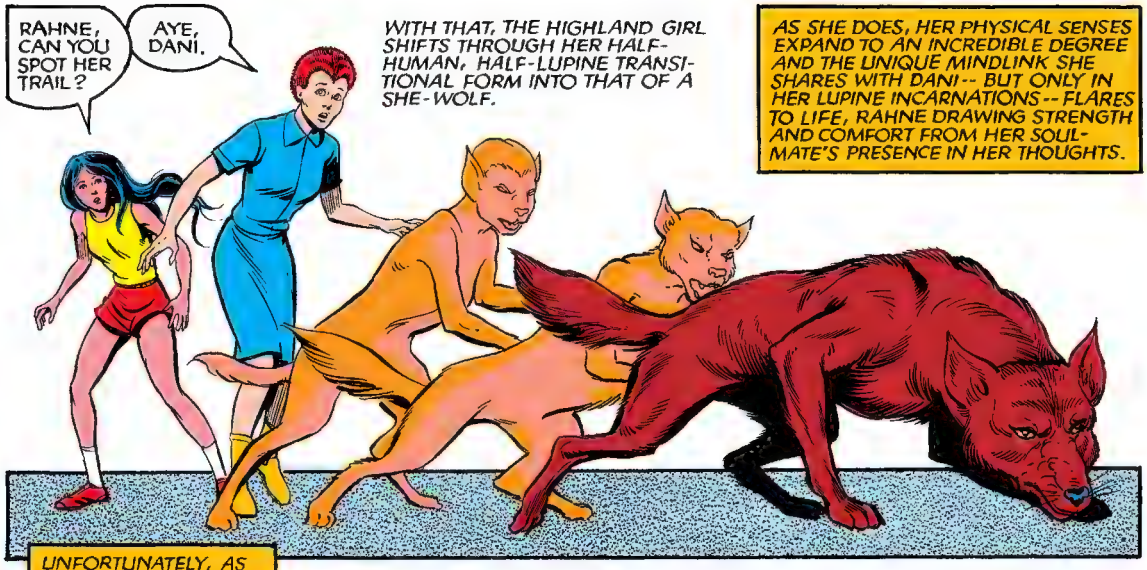

LOOK AT THE BUILDINGS SHAKE!
THAT WAS SOME BLAST, BOBBY. WATCH OUT FOR FALLIN' GLASS, YOU GUYS, IT PROBABLY BROKE A LOTTA WINDOWS.

I ONLY HOPE AMARA DIDN'T CAUSE TOO MUCH...
...DAMAGE.



AMARA'S *OUR* RESPONSIBILITY.
THAT MAKES THIS MESS OUR FAULT. WE BETTER GIVE THE AUTHORITIES A HAND.
THE POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES UNITS ARE DOING FINE WITHOUT US, SAM.

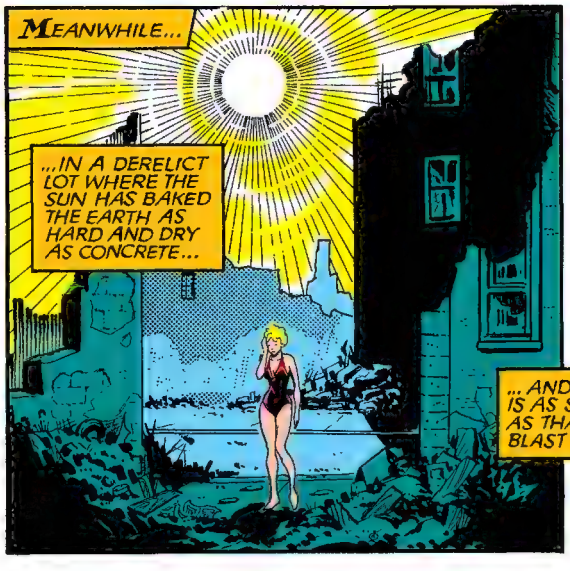
LIKE YOU SAID, *AMARA'S* OUR RESPONSIBILITY.
SHE WOULDN'T DO THIS INTENTIONALLY. SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG, HER POWER'S OUT OF CONTROL. WE CAN DO THE MOST GOOD BY FINDING HER BEFORE SHE CAUSES A REAL DISASTER!

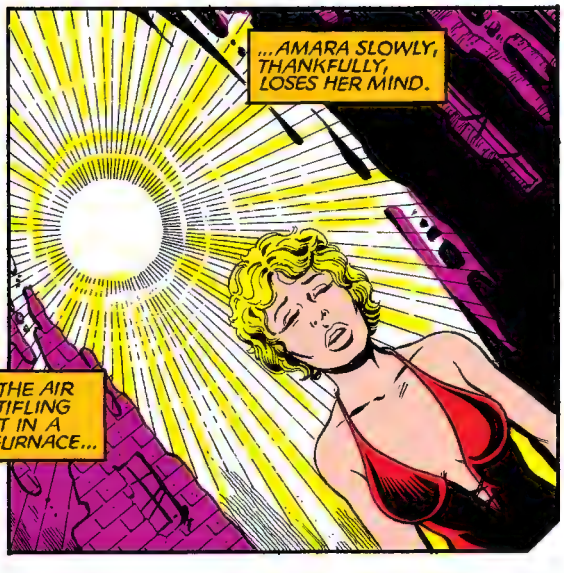

RAHNE, CAN YOU SPOT HER TRAIL?
AYE, DANI.
WITH THAT, THE HIGHLAND GIRL SHIFTS THROUGH HER HALF-HUMAN, HALF-LUPINE TRANSITIONAL FORM INTO THAT OF A SHE-WOLF.
AS SHE DOES, HER PHYSICAL SENSES EXPAND TO AN INCREDIBLE DEGREE AND THE UNIQUE MINDLINK SHE SHARES WITH DANI -- BUT ONLY IN HER LUPINE INCARNATIONS -- FLARES TO LIFE, RAHNE DRAWING STRENGTH AND COMFORT FROM HER SOULMATE'S PRESENCE IN HER THOUGHTS.

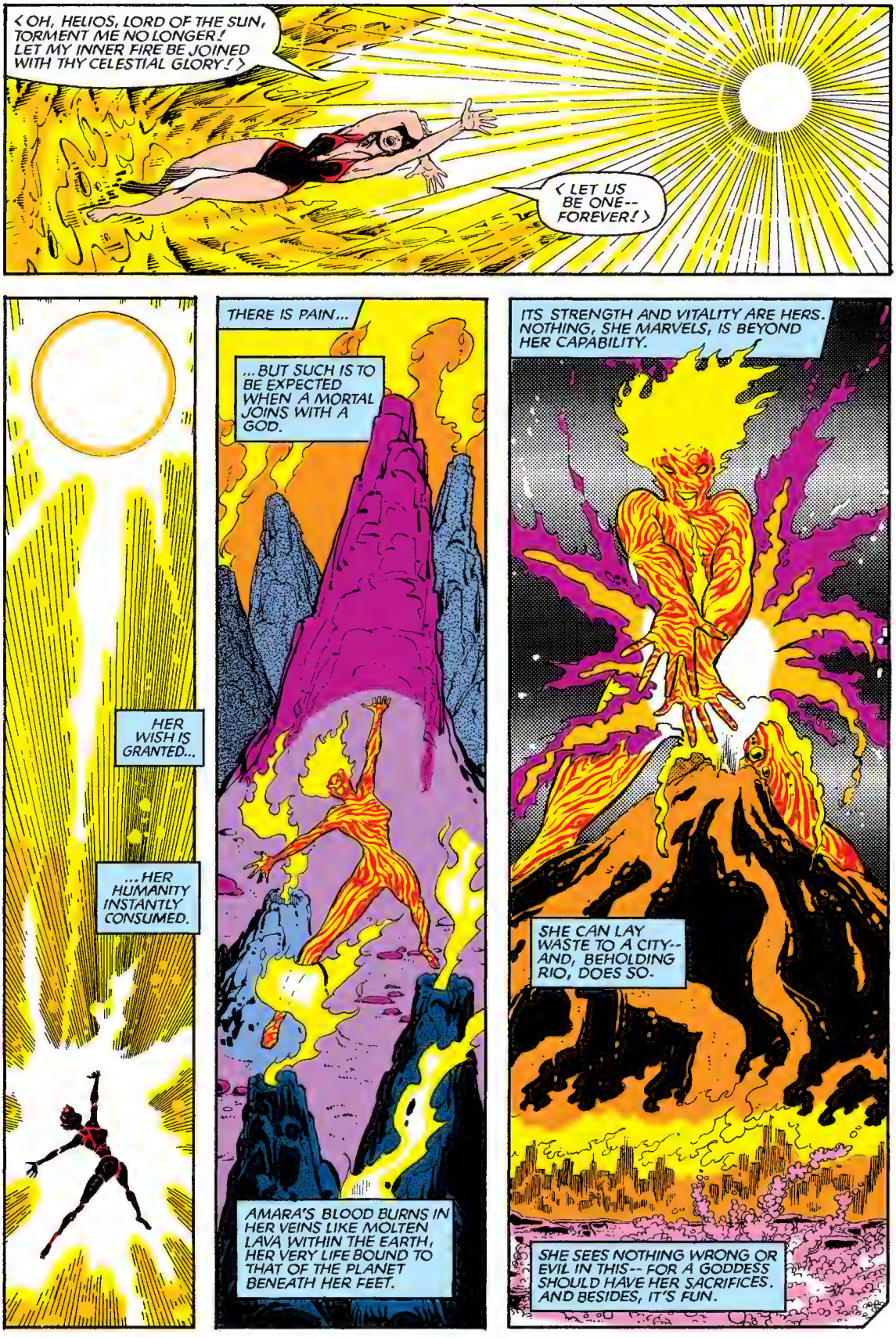
UNFORTUNATELY, AS RAHNE CASTS ABOUT FOR AMARA'S SCENT...
HAH-
CHOO!

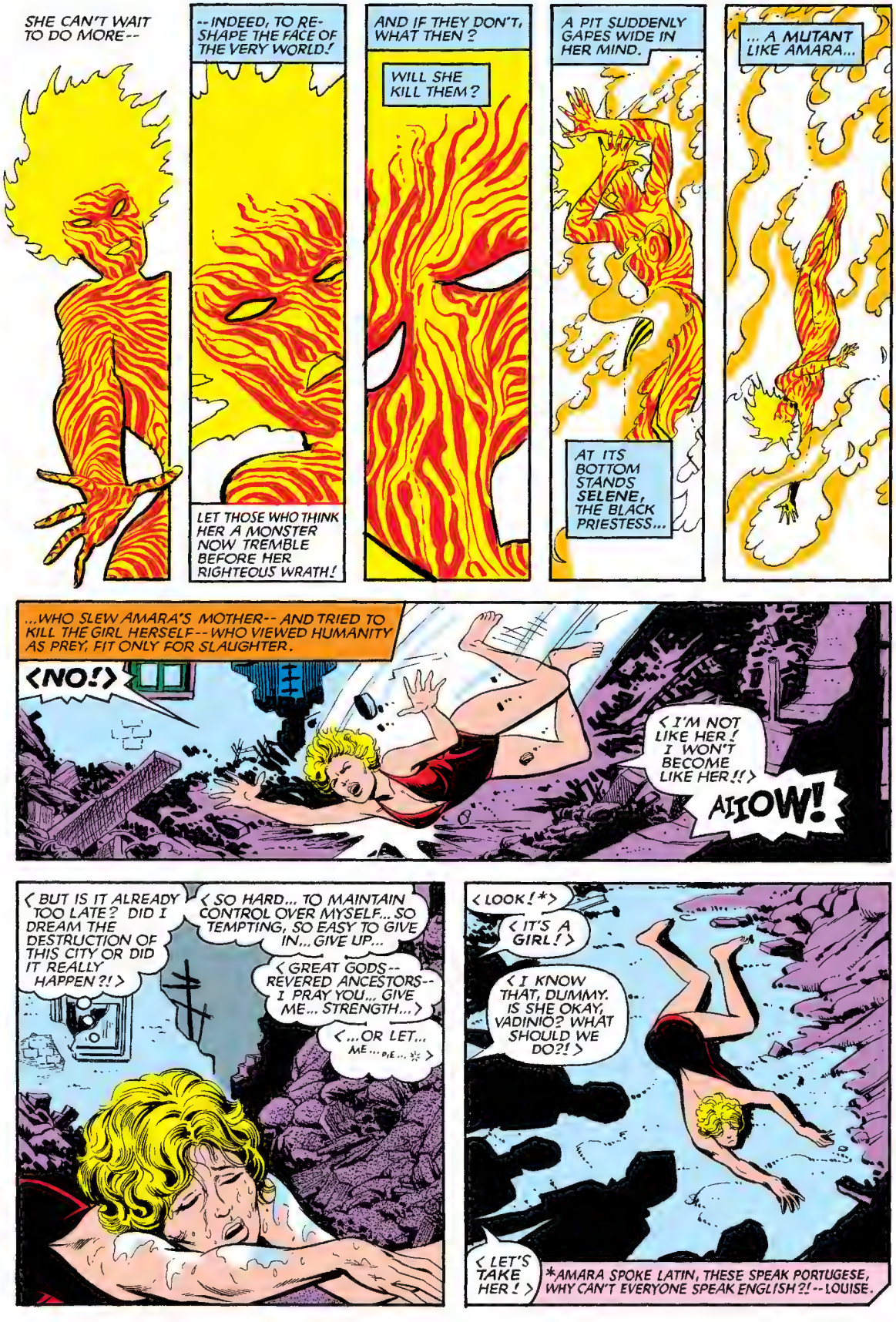
THE SULPHER IN THE AIR -- FROM ALL THIS VOLCANIC ACTIVITY -- IT'S MAKING RAHNE SNEEZE. HOW WILL WE EVER FIND AMARA NOW?
IT ISN'T AS IF WE DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE'S BEEN, DANI.

GOOD POINT. YOU HEARD HIM, TROOPS -- FOLLOW THAT VOLCANO!
'BERTO CRACKED A JOKE! GREAT!! WHATEVER HAPPENED TODAY BETWEEN HIM AND HIS DAD...
...CAN'T HAVE BEEN TOO BAD.


MEANWHILE...
...IN A DERELICT LOT WHERE THE SUN HAS BAKED THE EARTH AS HARD AND DRY AS CONCRETE...
...AND THE AIR IS AS STIFLING AS THAT IN A BLAST FURNACE...

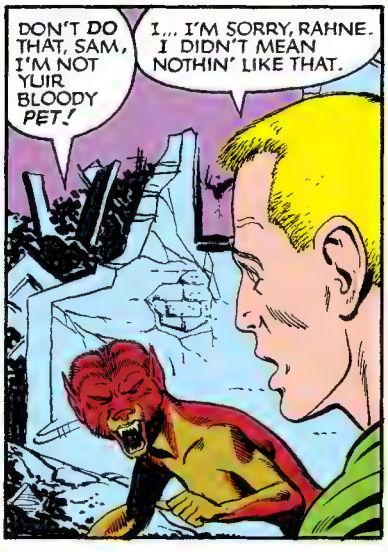

...AMARA SLOWLY, THANKFULLY, LOSES HER MIND.


< OH, HELIOS, LORD OF THE SUN, TORMENT ME NO LONGER! LET MY INNER FIRE BE JOINED WITH THY CELESTIAL GLORY! >
< LET US BE ONE-- FOREVER! >
HER WISH IS GRANTED...
...HER HUMANITY INSTANTLY CONSUMED.
THERE IS PAIN...
...BUT SUCH IS TO BE EXPECTED WHEN A MORTAL JOINS WITH A GOD.
AMARA'S BLOOD BURNS IN HER VEINS LIKE MOLTEN LAVA WITHIN THE EARTH, HER VERY LIFE BOUND TO THAT OF THE PLANET BENEATH HER FEET.
ITS STRENGTH AND VITALITY ARE HERS. NOTHING, SHE MARVELS, IS BEYOND HER CAPABILITY.
SHE CAN LAY WASTE TO A CITY-- AND, BEHOLDING RIO, DOES SO.
SHE SEES NOTHING WRONG OR EVIL IN THIS-- FOR A GODDESS SHOULD HAVE HER SACRIFICES. AND BESIDES, IT'S FUN.


SHE CAN'T WAIT TO DO MORE--
--INDEED, TO RE-SHAPE THE FACE OF THE VERY WORLD!
LET THOSE WHO THINK HER A MONSTER NOW TREMBLE BEFORE HER RIGHTEOUS WRATH!
AND IF THEY DON'T, WHAT THEN?
WILL SHE KILL THEM?
A PIT SUDDENLY GAPES WIDE IN HER MIND.
AT ITS BOTTOM STANDS SELENE, THE BLACK PRIESTESS...
... A MUTANT LIKE AMARA...
...WHO SLEW AMARA'S MOTHER-- AND TRIED TO KILL THE GIRL HERSELF--WHO VIEWED HUMANITY AS PREY, FIT ONLY FOR SLAUGHTER.
<NO!>
<I'M NOT LIKE HER! I WON'T BECOME LIKE HER!!>
AIIOW!
<BUT IS IT ALREADY TOO LATE? DID I DREAM THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS CITY OR DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?!>
<SO HARD... TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OVER MYSELF... SO TEMPTING, SO EASY TO GIVE IN... GIVE UP...
<GREAT GODS-- REVERED ANCESTORS-- I PRAY YOU... GIVE ME... STRENGTH...>
<...OR LET... ME... DIE...>
<LOOK!*>
<IT'S A GIRL!>
<I KNOW THAT, DUMMY. IS SHE OKAY, VADINIO? WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!>
<LET'S TAKE HER!>
*AMARA SPOKE LATIN, THESE SPEAK PORTUGESE, WHY CAN'T EVERYONE SPEAK ENGLISH?!--LOUISE.

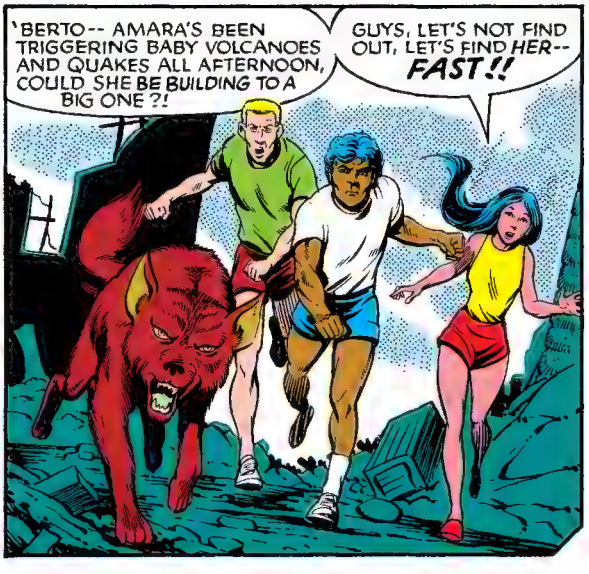
LATER...
WE JUST MISSED HER?!! BLAST!!!
ANY IDEA WHICH WAY SHE WENT, RAHNE?
THERE'S A LOT O' SCENTS, DANI, MINGLED WI' AMARA'S. I THINK SOME PEOPLE CARRIED HER TO A CAR OR TRUCK AN' DROVE OFF.

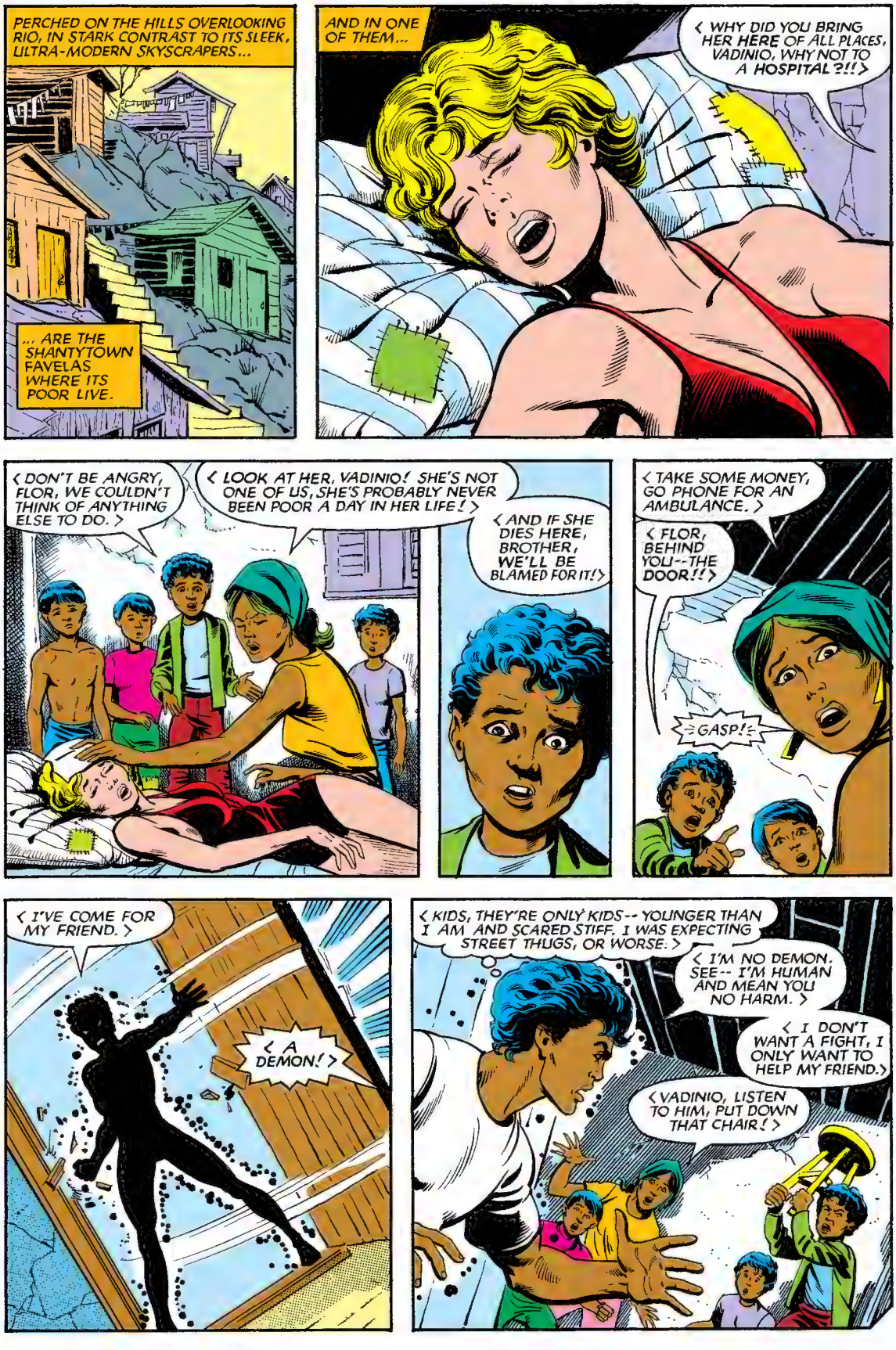
HEY, GUYS, NO PROBLEM. RAHNE'S GOT ONE FINE SENSE O' SMELL-- SHE CAN PROBABLY FOLLOW THAT CAR EASY.


DON'T DO THAT, SAM, I'M NOT YUIR BLOODY PET!
I... I'M SORRY, RAHNE. I DIDN'T MEAN NOTHIN' LIKE THAT.

JUST KEEP YUIR HANDS AN' THOUGHTS TO YUIRSEL' FROM NOW ON, THAT'S ALL I ASK.
DANI, THERE'S A VERRA ODD TASTE T' THE AIR. I DINNA LIKE IT.

IT MAKES ME WANT T' RUN LIKE BLAZES F'R OPEN COUNTRY.
YEARS AGO, IN PERU, MY PARENTS AND I WERE IN AN EARTHQUAKE.
RIGHT BEFORE THE MAIN SHOCK, THE SKY HAD THIS SAME QUALITY, THE SAME UNEARTHLY STILLNESS.


'BERTO-- AMARA'S BEEN TRIGGERING BABY VOLCANOES AND QUAKES ALL AFTERNOON, COULD SHE BE BUILDING TO A BIG ONE?!
GUYS, LET'S NOT FIND OUT, LET'S FIND HER-- FAST!!


PERCHED ON THE HILLS OVERLOOKING RIO, IN STARK CONTRAST TO ITS SLEEK, ULTRA-MODERN SKYSCRAPERS...
... ARE THE SHANTYTOWN FAVELAS WHERE ITS POOR LIVE.
AND IN ONE OF THEM...
< WHY DID YOU BRING HER HERE OF ALL PLACES, VADINIO, WHY NOT TO A HOSPITAL ?!! >
< DON'T BE ANGRY, FLOR, WE COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO DO. >
< LOOK AT HER, VADINIO! SHE'S NOT ONE OF US, SHE'S PROBABLY NEVER BEEN POOR A DAY IN HER LIFE! >
< AND IF SHE DIES HERE, BROTHER, WE'LL BE BLAMED FOR IT! >
< TAKE SOME MONEY, GO PHONE FOR AN AMBULANCE. >
< FLOR, BEHIND YOU--THE DOOR!! >
-GASP!-
< I'VE COME FOR MY FRIEND. >
< A DEMON! >
< KIDS, THEY'RE ONLY KIDS-- YOUNGER THAN I AM AND SCARED STIFF. I WAS EXPECTING STREET THUGS, OR WORSE. >
< I'M NO DEMON. SEE-- I'M HUMAN AND MEAN YOU NO HARM. >
< I DON'T WANT A FIGHT, I ONLY WANT TO HELP MY FRIEND. >
< VADINIO, LISTEN TO HIM, PUT DOWN THAT CHAIR! >

Bullpen Bulletins

Hi! I'm not Jim Shooter, but Jim is my boss. I'm Lynn, his assistant. My job is to help Jim. And *that* means trying to help some of the people who call or come to Jim's office with questions or problems. Editors, writers, artists, movie producers, and other important Big Wheels come here to see Jim. I handle as much as I can for him because he's *soooo* busy! The most important people I help are *you*, the Marvel Comics fans out there who write or call with all sorts of serious (and sometimes crazy) questions. That's a huge job, so *I* have an assistant too! Her name is Margaret Clark, and she's terrific! We're here to help. We can tell you the best way to send in your art and writing submissions or help you find your local comics shop. *But*, we're real busy, so when you call or write to Jim or us, please be as brief as you can. Please clearly state what you want to know. We will find out and get back to you as soon as we can.

We get *a lot* of requests to give tours. We get so many requests that we couldn't possibly give a tour to everyone who asks – and since it isn't fair to pick just a few, we don't give any! We are working on doing something about that, because, really, we *love* giving tours. It's fun meeting other people who are as excited about Marvel Comics as we are (and it's one of the few times that Jim unchains us from our desks). But, until then, I thought I'd give you a quickie tour of the Marvel Bullpen.

JACK ABEL'S SHORTS...

Jack Abel is an inker (a *great* one!) who works in the Bullpen. His "shorts" are about 3 feet wide, have great big red polka dots, and are made of cardboard. Someone took a great big bite on one side! They are hanging at the front of Jack's drawing table where he often sleeps... err... um... works. I'm not certain why somebody stuck those shorts on Jack's table, but they sure look funny.

THE SANCTUARY OF THE ANCIENT ONE

Nearby to Jack reclines paste-up man Morrie Kuramoto, who, according to legend, is the oldest Bullpenner. He'll tell you about the healthful properties of onions, garlic and carrot juice – but see this month's Bullpen Bulletins Special, which appears in Marvel's three Direct-Only titles, *Micronauts*, *Moon Knight*, and *Ka-Zar* where Bullpen Manager Danny Crespi gets Morrie to tell all.

And Danny! Danny Crespi is an adorable cutie (maybe the nicest man in the whole world!) who's taken to wearing suspenders. Poor Danny, girls just love snapping suspenders.

RON'S COMMAND CENTER

Ron Zalme is Danny's assistant manager – it's no easy task to run the Bullpen. Besides all the other important stuff he does, Ron's duties include supervising the operation of the Bullpen's *toaster* (which he's nicknamed "ROM") and storing volleyball equipment. Yep, we sometimes play volleyball in nearby Madison Park at lunchtime!

PARKER'S ALL-NITE LETTERING SERVICE

Nearby to Ron is Rick Parker – ace letterer and all-around hard worker. This man doesn't ever go home! He's always working in the morning when I come in and even if I leave at 10 p.m. he's *still* there working. If he does go to sleep, I bet he sleeps with his Crowquill pen clenched tightly in his hand.

DESIGNER'S DEN

The Bullpen has a great design and production team. There's Joe Albelo, Barry Shapiro and Robbin Brosterman all in a row. They work on the magazines designing layouts and doing paste-ups and after they finish they climb out and dust themselves off.

ALSO IN THE 'PEN...

...are Paul Becton, who does coloring and referencing, George Roussos, cover colorist, John Tartaglione, who does art corrections, and John Morelli, who's a letterer. They call John M. "Squid" because he worked on a ship one summer. He's very muscular (because he lifts weights) and he looks kinda like the Sub-Mariner!

EDITOR'S ROW

Across from the Bullpen is Editor's Row which is growing ever longer. Each office has a personality unique to each team. There are cartoons on the doors, walls and windows. There's all *sorts* of weird, crazy and fun things going on all the time. But, there are too many of them for me to tell you all about all of them here – and, besides, you hear more about them than the other Bullpenners.

STAT'S R US!

I mustn't forget Robbie Carosella and Harry Candelario who do the photostats and who are a big part of the Marvel Bullpen. Since every single page of every single Marvel Comics must pass through the stat room, their job is critically important. I try to treat them right! And, Robbie manages the Marvel Softball Team!

OUR 'PEN MOTHER

Who ties it all together? It's our lovely Traffic Manager Virginia Romita. Virginia is the one who encourages the editors to get the creative people to finish their work on time! She also makes sure that all in-house work gets out to the printers. Without Virginia you might have to wait MONTHS between your favorite titles. It's time Virginia gets some fan mail of her own! Thanks, Virginia.

THE THRONE ROOM!

Jim Shooter's office is along Editor's Row, but just a bit away from the Bullpen. He's got a *big* table for a desk. On his desk is the Bubblegum Machine that Terry Austin, Lea Sapp and I gave him for Christmas. We do our best to keep it filled with jelly beans for Jim, but Chris Claremont and everyone else keep doing their best to empty it! Jim's desk is surrounded by the piles of mail that he gets everyday. You already know that he reads all his mail. He'd love to *answer* it all, but of course, it just isn't humanly possible! Jim also has a swell comfy chair that swivels. And since he's away now, I'm sitting in his chair swiveling and writing *his* Bullpen Bulletin. I wonder if *anyone* will notice?

Take care,

Lynn

Lynn E. Cohen

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

Watch out this month, true-believers! There's no way we can pick out just one or two books as especially exciting. The assistant editors have been going crazy with their brief thirty days at the helm of Marvel, so all our comics are bound to be... well, unique this month. If you don't want to miss any unheralded magic, charm, or silliness, you'd better buy all our titles! How's that for unleashed hype?

- ☐ THE THING #7
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #202
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #11
- ☐ DAZZLER #30
- ☐ CONAN THE KING #20
- ☐ RETURN OF THE JEDI #4 (Limited Series)
- ☐ MOON KNIGHT SPECIAL EDITION #3
- ☐ MARVEL RETREAD FUNNIES #1
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #248
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #289
- ☐ THOR #330
- ☐ INDIANA JONES #13
- ☐ MOON KNIGHT #35
- ☐ MICRONAUTS #56
- ☐ IRON MAN #178
- ☐ CRYSTAR #5
- ☐ MAGIK (Illyana and Storm Limited Series) #2
- ☐ S.H.I.E.L.D. SPECIAL EDITION #2 – Second of two books reprinting STERANKO'S stunning S.H.I.E.L.D. stories
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #291
- ☐ AVENGERS #230
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #154
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #159 — Reprinting Amazing Spider-Man #21 by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, "Where Flies the Beetle!"
- ☐ X-MEN #177
- ☐ ROM #50
- ☐ POWER MAN/IRON FIST #101
- ☐ G.I. JOE #19
- ☐ CLOAK & DAGGER #4 (Limited Series)
- ☐ ELEKTRA SAGA #1 (Limited Series)
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #262
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #137 — Aunt May and Franklin Richards
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #6
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #86
- ☐ DEFENDERS #127
- ☐ STAR WARS #79
- ☐ JACK OF HEARTS #1 (Limited Series)
- ☐ X-MEN CLASSICS #1 (Limited Series) – More classic reprints from ROY THOMAS and NEAL ADAMS.
- ☐ MICRONAUTS SPECIAL EDITION #2 (Limited Edition) – Re-presenting the original MANTLO/GOLDEN sagas.

MARVEL ANNUALS

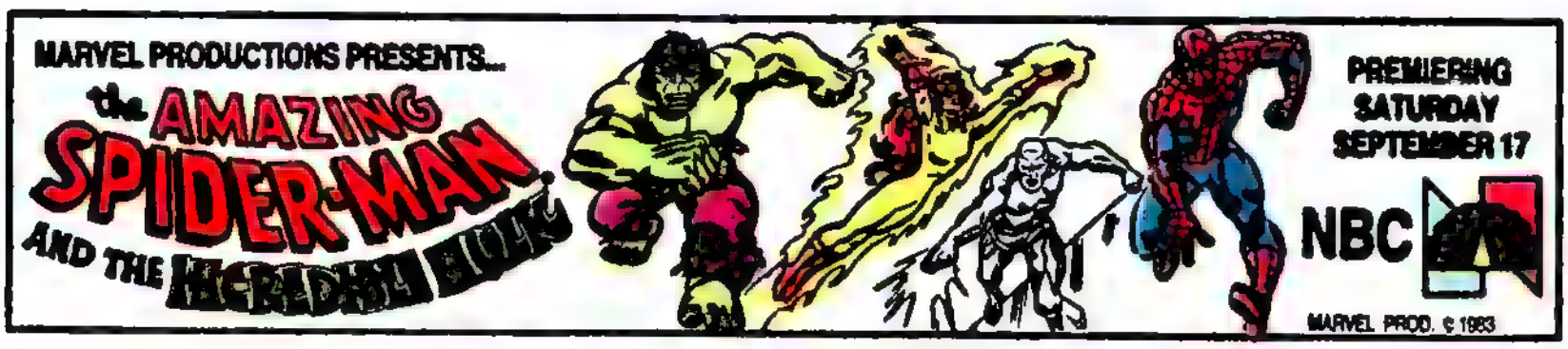
- ☐ AVENGERS ANNUAL #12 — Guest starring the Inhumans.
- ☐ X-MEN ANNUAL #7

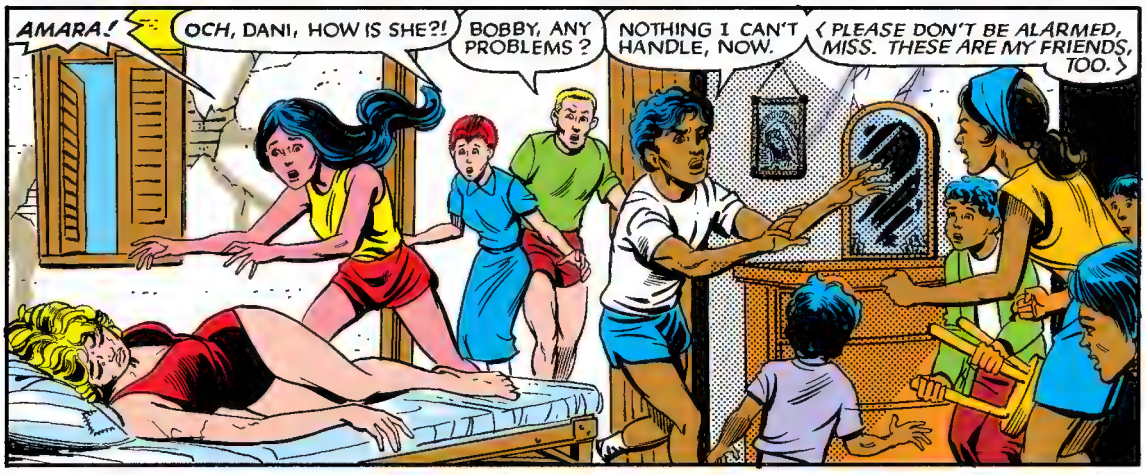
MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #95
- ☐ MARVEL AGE #10
- ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #12

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ EPIC ILLUSTRATED #21
- ☐ DREADSTAR #7




AMARA!
OCH, DANI, HOW IS SHE?!
BOBBY, ANY PROBLEMS?
NOTHING I CAN'T HANDLE, NOW.
(PLEASE DON'T BE ALARMED, MISS. THESE ARE MY FRIENDS, TOO.)

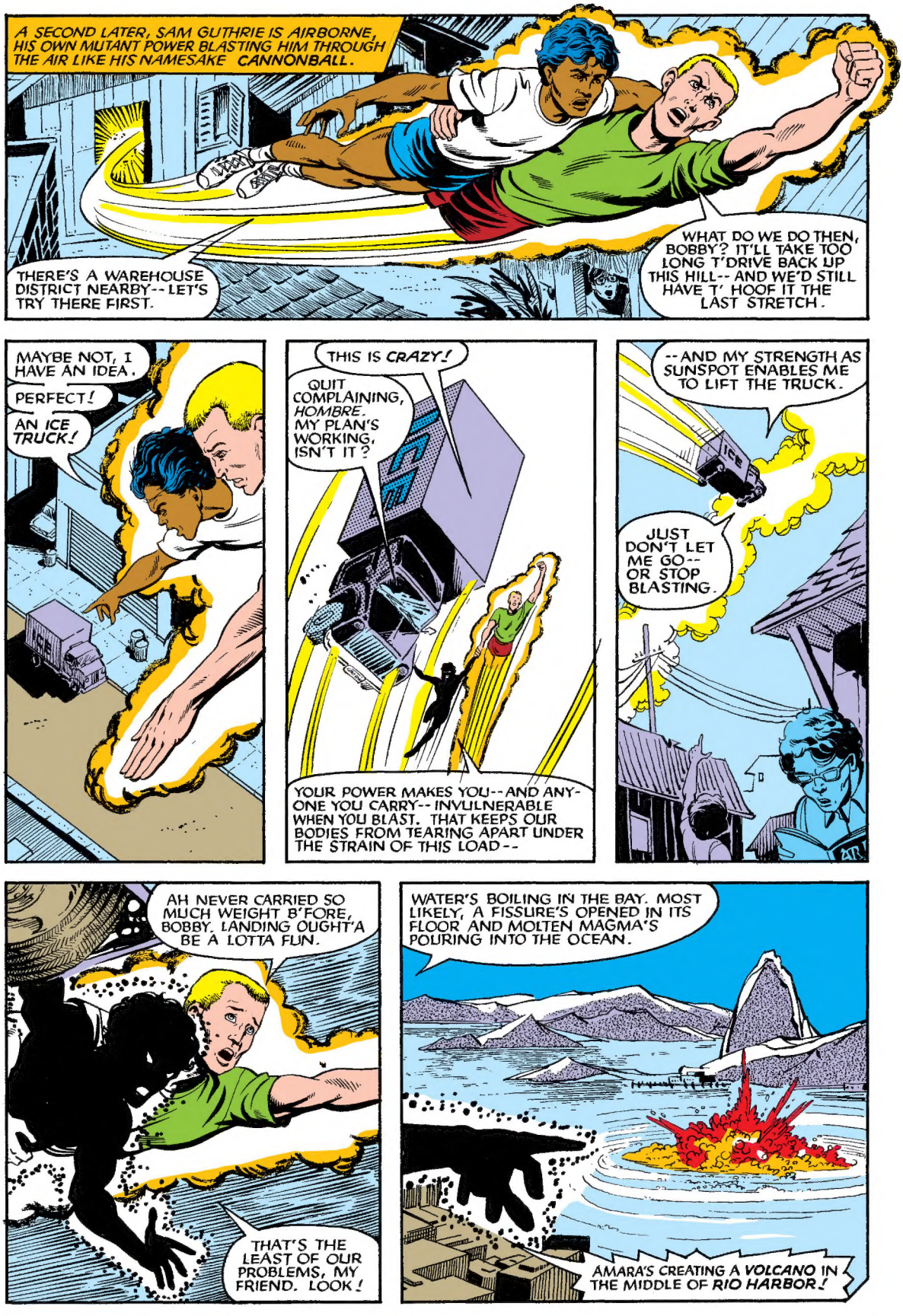
SHE'S SOAKED WITH SWEAT-- FEVERISH AND DELIRIOUS-- ITS GOT TO BE SUNSTROKE!
WE'VE GOT TO LOWER HER BODY TEMPERATURE. CAN WE GET ANY ICE-- A LOT OF IT-- FROM ANYWHERE NEARBY?
NOT IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

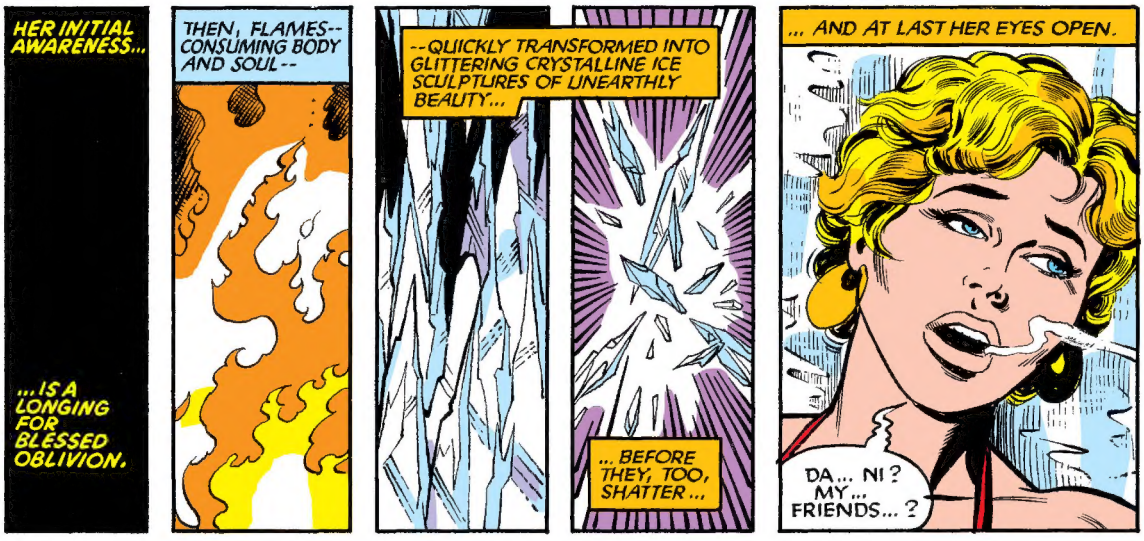
ON THE AMAZON, WHEN THE HEAT MADE RAHNE PASS OUT, I USED MY POWER TO CREATE SPIRIT-FORMS OF HER HEART'S DESIRE--A SNOWSTORM. IT WAS ONLY AN ILLUSION, BUT IT SEEMED TO HELP.*
*NM #8-- L.

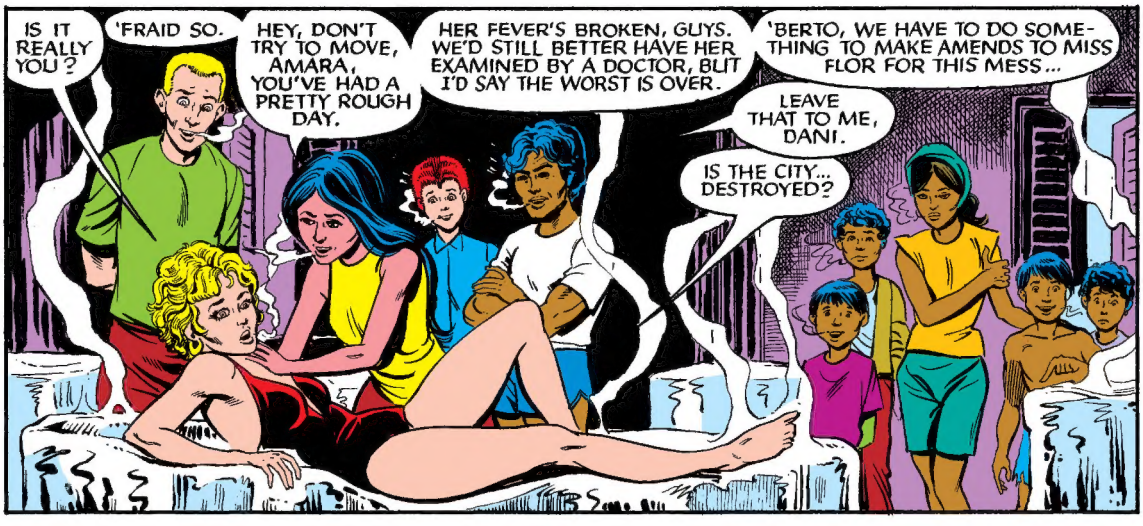
"MAYBE THE SAME TRICK'LL WORK WITH AMARA."
NO!

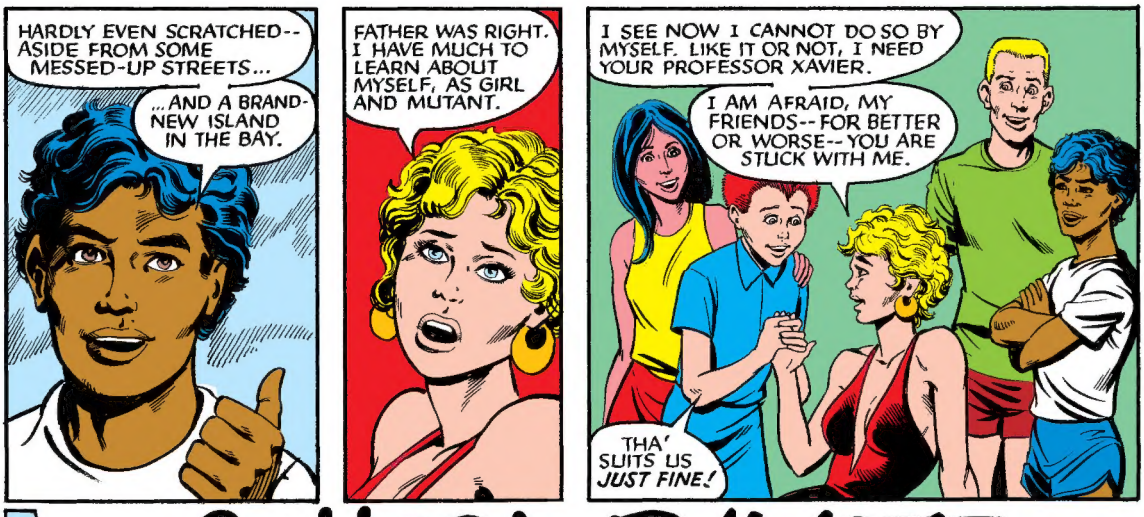
HER HEART'S DESIRE-- IT'S DEATH!
NOT ONLY FOR AMARA, BUT FOR ALL THE NEW MUTANTS!
FEEL THAT TREMOR?! IT'S A PRE-SHOCK! THE MAIN QUAKE WON'T BE FAR BEHIND!

AMARA'S TOO WEAK TO BE MOVED-- WE'LL GET HER TO A HOSPITAL LATER! WE HAVE TO COOL HER DOWN RIGHT, HERE AND NOW!
SAM, 'BERTO-- FIND ME ICE, ALL YOU CAN CARRY! AND PRAY WE'RE NOT TOO LATE!


A SECOND LATER, SAM GUTHRIE IS AIRBORNE, HIS OWN MUTANT POWER BLASTING HIM THROUGH THE AIR LIKE HIS NAMESAKE CANNONBALL.
THERE'S A WAREHOUSE DISTRICT NEARBY-- LET'S TRY THERE FIRST.
WHAT DO WE DO THEN, BOBBY? IT'LL TAKE TOO LONG T'DRIVE BACK UP THIS HILL-- AND WE'D STILL HAVE T' HOOF IT THE LAST STRETCH.
MAYBE NOT, I HAVE AN IDEA.
PERFECT!
AN ICE TRUCK!
THIS IS CRAZY!
QUIT COMPLAINING, HOMBRE. MY PLAN'S WORKING, ISN'T IT?
YOUR POWER MAKES YOU-- AND ANY-ONE YOU CARRY-- INVULNERABLE WHEN YOU BLAST. THAT KEEPS OUR BODIES FROM TEARING APART UNDER THE STRAIN OF THIS LOAD--
--AND MY STRENGTH AS SUNSPOT ENABLES ME TO LIFT THE TRUCK.
JUST DON'T LET ME GO-- OR STOP BLASTING.
AH NEVER CARRIED SO MUCH WEIGHT B'FORE, BOBBY. LANDING OUGHT'A BE A LOTTA FUN.
THAT'S THE LEAST OF OUR PROBLEMS, MY FRIEND. LOOK!
WATER'S BOILING IN THE BAY. MOST LIKELY, A FISSURE'S OPENED IN ITS FLOOR AND MOLTEN MAGMA'S POURING INTO THE OCEAN.
AMARA'S CREATING A VOLCANO IN THE MIDDLE OF RIO HARBOR!


HER INITIAL AWARENESS...
...IS A LONGING FOR BLESSED OBLIVION.
THEN, FLAMES--CONSUMING BODY AND SOUL--
--QUICKLY TRANSFORMED INTO GLITTERING CRYSTALLINE ICE SCULPTURES OF UNEARTHLY BEAUTY...
...BEFORE THEY, TOO, SHATTER...
...AND AT LAST HER EYES OPEN.
DA... NI? MY... FRIENDS...?


IS IT REALLY YOU?
'FRAID SO.
HEY, DON'T TRY TO MOVE, AMARA, YOU'VE HAD A PRETTY ROUGH DAY.
HER FEVER'S BROKEN, GUYS. WE'D STILL BETTER HAVE HER EXAMINED BY A DOCTOR, BUT I'D SAY THE WORST IS OVER.
'BERTO, WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING TO MAKE AMENDS TO MISS FLOR FOR THIS MESS...
LEAVE THAT TO ME, DANI.
IS THE CITY... DESTROYED?


HARDLY EVEN SCRATCHED--ASIDE FROM SOME MESSED-UP STREETS...
...AND A BRAND-NEW ISLAND IN THE BAY.
FATHER WAS RIGHT. I HAVE MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT MYSELF, AS GIRL AND MUTANT.
I SEE NOW I CANNOT DO SO BY MYSELF. LIKE IT OR NOT, I NEED YOUR PROFESSOR XAVIER.
I AM AFRAID, MY FRIENDS--FOR BETTER OR WORSE--YOU ARE STUCK WITH ME.
THA' SUITS US JUST FINE!

NEXT

SCHOOL DAYSZE

MUTANT MAIL

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP
387 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

LOUISE JONES
EDITOR
ELIOT BROWN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Masters of the Marvelous Mutant Mythos,

Congratulations are in order for NEW MUTANTS #5. It continues this title's line of interesting and innovative stories. Surprising, shocking and just plain fun were –

1) the new mutants in street clothes for the entire story. This seemed to back up the idea that these kids are just ordinary people with X-traordinary powers.

2) Team America as a projecting gestalt. Wow! That *does* explain why the Dark Rider can show up anywhere TA is!

3) Roberto's disappointment upon meeting his hero, Wolf. Boy – between the death of Juliana in the GRAPHIC NOVEL, Professor Xavier's apparent abandonment of Dani, and Wolf's thoughtlessness, we're gonna have one disillusioned, angry mutants!

4) Viper's method of blackmailing James MacDonald into working for her – using a hostage he wasn't even sure existed. Viper has to be one of Marvel's prime-nasties.

5) The New Mutants striking out on their own against her!

The NEW MUTANTS seem to have attained already a level of storytelling that has taken some other mags years to accomplish!

Francis Pride
224 Shafter St.
Hauppage, NY 11788

Gents,

In response to Dustan Leary's letter (NEW MUTANTS #5) about keeping the book simple by having these children fight "easy" foes like Magneto, the Hellfire Club, Black Tom Cassidy and the Juggernaut – I would like to know who he thinks is hard? Galactus, along with the entire Kree and Skrull races? Go easy on our heroes, fellows, and perhaps they'll live long enough to make it to their first anniversary... "easy"... sheesh!

Robert J. Sodaro
1167 Merritt St.
Fairfield, CT 06432

You'll see how the kids stack up against some of the X-Men's big-time foes in about six months, Robert, when they not only take on the Hellfire Club but meet a whole new batch of mutants their own age, students at the evil White Queen's Massachusetts Academy. There, assuming they survive, the sky's the limit! Galactus had better watch out!

Dear Louise and Chris,

I like the NEW MUTANTS comic. I like the characters, the art (for the most part) and the situations. I loved "Who's Scaring Stevie?" (NM #4) – fantastic!

Recently, a friend and I discussed the possibility of adding new mutants to the team. The major characters we thought of were Illyana Rasputin, Franklin Richards and Theresa Cassidy. Please DON'T add anyone, especially these three! Leave Illyana to the X-Men, Franklin to the Fantastic Four and Theresa to her father, Sean Cassidy. I agree with the possibility of additions to the team, but not now – LATER! Let the team grow!

Scott Duff
604-F S. Loop Rd.
Huntsville, AL 35805

There's little chance, Scott, of Franklin or Theresa joining the New Mutants. Illyana is a different mattter. She is a mutant and does have powers – though she's still is terrified to use them, for reasons that will be explained in the MAGIK limited series. What will become of her – and her special powers – remains to be seen.

Dear Chris,

What do you think you're doing with Rahne? Are you trying to make her a candidate for an insane asylum, or what?

I can empathize with her. I was brought up with Fundamentalist beliefs. As a result, anything that is outside the scope of that teaching is dismissed as evil, whether it really is or not. I'm sure that the attitudes and actions of those people Rahne has met so far in the United States have been a little unsettling. You yourself have stated previously that, as Wolfsbane, she has difficulty doing things that a normal wolf would do. However, if you keep up the treatment she's been receiving of late, she's going to lose her marbles!

The other members of the team have all had their share of lumps. But, jeez, every time I turn a page I seem to find Rahne badly injured, lying unconscious on the ground and about to be killed! You're giving the Liberated Woman a bad hassle, Chris, and I really don't like it much.

This girl has spirit, courage and a love of her powers. If you don't change things real soon, I'm afraid we're going to have another Susan Storm Richards on our hands. Personally, I think this group of kids is too good for that. Rahne deserves better treatment.

One other thing: when are you going to get her some clothes made out of unstable molecules, so that she doesn't have to wear that costume all the time? Streaking went out years ago!

Danny M. Davids
1804 Montezuma Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO

Professor Xavier's working on that, Danny; the problem is reconciling his concept of style and good taste with Rahne's. Also cloth of unstable molecules takes time to construct and can't be bought at your local fabric store.

Rahne has difficulty behaving as a true wolf would because she isn't one; she's a *human being* who can shift her shape into that of a wolf. Her natural instincts, when in wolf-form, are still those of a girl. Thus she has some problems coping with the shapeshift. As far as her tendency to get bopped on the head a lot, she too has noted the unfairness of it and has decided that henceforth, *all* the kids will get bopped with equal enthusiasm. Rahne'll just heal a lot faster.

Dear Chris, Sal, Bob and Louise,

I question the appearance of Team America so early on in the history of the New Mutants. Such an appearance seems to suggest that the New Mutants aren't strong enough to sustain interest in their own series. Wouldn't it be wiser to keep all the New Mutants stories, at least in the beginning, "in the family" I'd like to see more focus on the group's adjustments to their powers and their environment, as well as more influence from the X-Men. Perhaps Storm could take an interest in them, as she did with Kitty Pryde.

Think of it – an opportunity to actually *train* and *discipline* a new horde of heroes, rather than seeing them recklessly learn in battle! Surely, *that* would be a Marvel first!

Bob Pinaha
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A Marvel first? What about Professor Xavier's earlier efforts to train and discipline the young X-MEN? And a good job he did, too!

NEXT ISSUE: Will Amara join the NEW MUTANTS? The answer to this and other questions will be answered in just 30 days in SCHOOL DAYSZE!

Digitized by

Syl3nt Bob and PhD

He's a gonna be OKAY!

I think...